

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT: CHEN, Mei-Li

SERIAL NO.: 10/825,109

ART UNIT: 3753

FILED: April 16, 2004

EXAMINER: Rivell, J.A.

TITLE: WATER INLET/OUTLET STRUCTURE FOR FAUCET

Amendment A: REMARKS

Upon entry of the present amendments, previous independent Claim 1 has been canceled and new independent Claim 2 substituted therefor. Reconsideration of the rejections, in light of the foregoing amendments and present remarks, is respectfully requested. The present amendments have been entered for the purpose of overcoming the "double patenting" rejection by the Examiner.

In the Office Action, it was indicated that independent Claim 1 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 101 as claiming the same invention as that of Claim 1 of prior U.S. Patent Application No. 6,892,761.

So as to overcome this rejection, new independent Claim 2 has been prepared in a more proper U.S. format, including proper antecedent bases and proper structural interrelationships throughout. Any indefinite terminology found in the original claim language has been corrected herein. Additionally, new independent Claim 2 specifically recites that the valve chamber has "a toothed surface extending around an outer wall of the valve chamber". Additionally, it is recited that this toothed surface "receives a ring thereon". Additionally, and furthermore, it is specified that the ring has "an interior toothed surface engaging said toothed surface on said outer wall of said valve chamber". Applicant respectfully contends that these features are neither shown, nor claimed, in prior U.S. Patent No. 6,892,761. These limitations are clearly disclosed in Figures 3 and 4 of the

present application.

Since the present application was filed prior to the issue date of U.S. Patent No. 6,892,761, Applicant is agreeable to filing a Terminal Disclaimer so as to obviate a judicially-created double-patenting rejection. If the Examiner should approve the present amendments, Applicant will proceed to prepare and file a proper Terminal Disclaimer in due course.

Based upon the foregoing analysis, Applicant contends that independent Claim 2 is now in proper condition for allowance. Reconsideration of the rejections and allowance of the present claim at an early date is earnestly solicited. Since no new claims have been added above those originally paid for, no additional fee is required.

Respectfully submitted,

<u>October 13, 2006</u> Date Customer No. 24106	/s/ Andrew W. Chu John S. Egbert; Reg. No. 30,627 Andrew W. Chu; Reg. No. 46,625 Egbert Law Offices 412 Main Street, 7th Floor Houston, Texas 77002 (713)224-8080 (713)223-4873 fax
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